

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method using a computing device executing a program stored on a computer readable storage media for searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user on a display screen of the computing device for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

the computing device searching ~~the~~ an information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying on the display screen of the computing device the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user on the display screen of the computing device for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

the computing device querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying on the display screen of the computing device the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including

selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for exact arrival departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare

limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

13. (Original) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

19. (Withdrawn) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for exact departure and arrival dates and times, a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times or a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

20. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at

least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

21. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

22. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

23. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

24. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 19, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

25. (Original) A method, using a computing device executing a program stored on a computer readable storage media for searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user on a display screen of the computing device for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

the computing device searching ~~the~~ an information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying on the display screen of the computing device the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected

travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

the computing device querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

the computing device querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying on the display screen of the computing device the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

30. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

31. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

32. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

33. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

34. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

35. (Withdrawn) A method of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

45. (Original) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure airport or geography range and at least one arrival geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport selected or within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

47. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.
48. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.
49. (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.
50. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.
51. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.
52. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.
53. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.
54. (Original) The system of claim 45, further comprising reservation means for making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.
55. (Withdrawn) A system of searching travel products and providing a plurality of alternative travel itineraries to the user comprising:

querying means for querying the user for a first set of input data, the input data being at least one departure geography range and at least one arrival airport or geography range associated with the travel departure and arrival;

searching means for searching the information storage and retrieval system for travel departure and arrival information corresponding to the first set of input data;

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the selected travel departure and arrival information, including a list of at least one departure airport within the selected travel departure geography and a list of at least one arrival airport selected or within the selected travel arrival geography;

querying means for querying the user for a range of acceptable departure and arrival dates and times and a range of an acceptable length of stay;

querying means for querying a travel database comprising travel data including separately maintained travel schedule data items, fare data items, and fare limitation information for matching itineraries with all possible departure and arrival airport, date, time, length of stay, and number of connections combinations; and

displaying means for displaying the information associated with the travel departure and arrival.

56. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein a set of feasible combinations of departure dates and times and arrival dates and times is generated.

57. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein a length of stay is calculated for each feasible combination.

58. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay greater than the maximum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

59. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, wherein the feasible combinations with a length of stay less than the minimum acceptable length of stay designated by the user is eliminated.

60. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for a second set of input data, the second set of input data including selecting at least one acceptable departure airport and at least one acceptable arrival airport associated with the travel departure and arrival.

61. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable maximum number of connections.

62. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising querying means for querying the user for an acceptable means of sorting and displaying the results of the travel database query.

63. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising accessing means for accessing a remotely accessible source for making travel destination reservations.

64. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 55, further comprising making a reservation at a selected travel destination using the remotely accessed source for making travel destination reservations.

65 – 94. (Cancelled)